



**US Army Corps
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Engineer Research and
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News Release

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ENGINEER PROMOTED TO BRANCH CHIEF

James “Jim” Leech, a registered professional engineer in the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, was recently promoted to chief of the Spillways and Channels Branch.

In that position, Leech is responsible for near-field hydraulic studies of spillways, outlet works, sluices, energy dissipation, channel protection, pumping stations and improved flood control channels where hardened structures are used.

Leech, who has worked at ERDC for 17 years, holds a bachelor’s and a master’s of science in civil engineering from Mississippi State University and has completed all course requirements for a doctorate from Colorado State University. He also holds a patent on an interlocking block stream bank protection device.

ERDC includes all of the Corps of Engineers dispersed research and development facilities and supports the Army and the Nation with high quality research, leading edge technology, and state-of-the-art facilities. The ERDC organization consists of eight unique laboratories in four locations: Construction Engineering Research Laboratory at Champaign, Ill., Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory at Hanover, N. H., Topographic Engineering Center at Alexandria, Va., and the Coastal and Hydraulics, Structures, Geotechnical, Environmental, and Information Technology Laboratories in Vicksburg, Miss.

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